

Application Serial No. 10/675,322
Reply to August 4, 2005 Final Office Action

Docket No. 1232-5166

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Status

Claims 1 and 4-18 are pending and rejected. Claim 1 is amended herein. Claim 10 is canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. After entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 1, 2-9, and 11-18 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 is independent in form. Support for these amendments is found throughout the specification and drawings, as originally filed. No new matter is added by these amendments.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 4-5, 9-11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Ando, U.S. Patent No. 6,742,887 ("Ando"). Claims 6-8 and 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ando in view of Saji, U.S. Patent No. 5,479,486 ("Saji"). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ando in view of Silverbrook et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,290,349 ("Silverbrook"). Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ando in view of Bork, U.S. Patent No. 6,255,800 ("Bork"). Applicants respectfully disagree with the characterization of the claims and prior art in the stated rejections and respectfully traverse these rejections.

The present invention as recited, e.g., in claim 1, requires *inter alia* that "wherein each of the contact point portions is in contact with each of the contact terminal portions in a predetermined combination to charge the battery when the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a predetermined direction, and *each of the contact point portions is in contact with each of the contact terminal portions in a combination other than the predetermined*

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combination to charge the battery when the image forming apparatus is contained in the container stand in a direction different from the predetermined direction.” (emphasis added)

Ando discloses a portable telephone 1 with a power supply terminal 3 that is in contact with a power supply terminal 23 of a charging/ink-filling/waste ink collection apparatus 8, when the portable telephone 1 is contained in the charging/ink-filling/waste ink collection apparatus 8. As shown in FIG. 5, the power supply terminal 23 is arranged in the left side of the recess in which the portable telephone 1 is inserted. Accordingly, if the portable telephone 1 is contained in a reverse direction, the power supply terminal 3 and the power supply terminal 23 are not in contact, thus failing to charge the battery. Moreover, Saji, Silverbrook and/or Bork fail to cure at least these deficiencies in Ando to arrive at the claimed invention.

Applicants respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed independent claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom, is neither taught nor suggested by, and therefore is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of, Ando, Saji, Silverbrook or Bork alone or in combination. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 in view of the art of record.

Dependent Claims

Applicants have not independently addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicants respectfully submit that, in view of the amendments to the claims presented herein and, for at least similar reasons as to why independent claim 1 from which the dependent claims depend are believed allowable as discussed supra, the dependent claims are also allowable. Applicants however, reserve the right to address any individual rejections of the dependent claims should such be necessary or appropriate.

CONCLUSION

For the above-stated reasons, this application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the

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event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5166.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5166.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: November 4, 2005

By: _____


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